IN THE CLAIMS:

Please write the claims to read as follows:

Please cancel claims 1-35 without prejudice.

1-35. (Cancelled)

- 36. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:
- detecting a failure of a primary virtual port on a first physical port of a first server,
- 3 wherein the primary virtual port has an identity;
- activating a secondary virtual port on a second physical port of the first server, the
- 5 second physical port adapted to support two or more virtual ports that share the second
- 6 physical port;
- τ configuring the secondary virtual port with the identity of the failed primary
- 8 virtual port; and
- 9 servicing one or more storage devices owned by the first server through the
- secondary virtual port on the first server.
- 37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein detecting the failure is in
- 2 response to initiating a failover procedure during a scheduled maintenance on the first
- 3 server.
- 1 38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein detecting a failure in the first
- 2 server further comprises: detecting a lack of a heartbeat signal from the first server at a
- 3 second server.
- 39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:
- 2 determining that the primary virtual port has been recovered;

- 3 terminating service requests to the secondary virtual port;
- 4 deactivating the secondary virtual port; and
- servicing the storage devices owned by the first server through the primary virtual
 port.
- 40. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium including program instructions
 when executed operable to:
- detecting a failure of a primary virtual port on a first physical port of a first server,
 wherein the primary virtual port has an identity;
- activating a secondary virtual port on a second physical port of the first server, the second physical port adapted to support two or more virtual ports that share the second physical port;
- s configuring the secondary virtual port with the identity of the failed primary
 virtual port; and
- servicing one or more storage devices owned by the first server through the secondary virtual port on the first server.